

United Deer Farmers of Michigan

Committee members: Chair Mike Huckleberry, Jeff Mayes, Vicki Barnett, Martin Griffin, Jennifer Haase, Judy Nerat, Mary Valentine, Sharon Tyler, Kevin Daley, Geoff Hansen, and Ken Kurtz.

Subject: AG Committee "Legislation on Feral Hogs".

The United Deer Farmers of Michigan (UDFoM) have worked with Michigan Dept. of Agriculture, Dept. of Natural Resources and other support groups on the topic of Feral Hogs for over two years. UDFoM supports the following bills with the following comments on each.

HB 5822

- The bill restricts the public from shooting these animals on sight. Sec 4A, Subsection (2) where a person has to have a "valid hunting license" is restrictive especially when feral hogs are destroying private property. Maybe explain better hunting license required on public land.
- Would like to see Subsection (3) "if on private property, do not need hunting license".
- UDFoM would support Bill in current state to move bill forward.

HB 5823

- Support bill in its current state.

HB 5824

- Support bill, but thought it unusual that, Ludington, is exempt of all the cities in Michigan to have a city listed as exemption.

Thank you for the opportunity to give the Ag Committee input from our organization in an important issue to Michigan. Feral Hogs must be removed from the landscape as fast and expediently as possible. These three bills will give us the start of authorization to due that.

Thank You
Alex Draper (810-275-2143)
Chair of Policy and Legislation